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it is a book which teachers and administrators cannot afford to disregard.

It is a sign of the times that Part I. should be devoted to Vocational Education, the new debatable ground in the educational world, and that the interests of the public school come second. The idea of vocational training in the school and vocational guidance to a future occupation after school has turned the trend of discussion in the last few years away from things purely pedagogic. For the time being many teachers are more interested in what the child is to do when he is a man than in what or how he is to learn while he is a child. The sections of Mr. Garber's book dealing with the institutions for higher learning are less satisfactory than those dealing with elementary and secondary schools. But teachers of all grades will read with interest Part IV., on "matters affecting the emoluments and standing of teachers." According to the Carnegie Foundation, the average salary of a college professor in the United States is $1,376, of a man teacher in the public schools $750, of a woman teacher $600. Education is the only thing in this country that is given for less than its value, and teachers the only craftsmen for whom "love of their work" openly supplements the pay envelope.

The *résumé* of foreign educational interests in Part VI. contains many valuable references to foreign methods and are of special value in dealing with the various foreign elements in the city schools. "The school," said President Faunce, "is a great melting-pot where our diverse people and multiple interests are fused into national unity." The teacher in this country, rather than the statesman, has his hand on the pulse of national life.

Is Mankind Advancing? By Mrs. John Martin. New York: The Baker & Taylor Company, 1910.

Had the writer of this remarkable literary production (we hesitate to call it a book) flourished in the latter part of the seventeenth century in the heyday of the bombastic pamphleteers our emotions on perusal would be less mixed. We might have classed it with Bramhall's *Catching of Leviathan, the Great Whale,"* or even identified it as an obscure work of the great Hobbes himself. But the date on the title-page proclaims it twentieth century and internal evidence verifies the date. So much atrociously bad writing, superficial study, and sloppy thinking has been devoted to American social problems in the last few years that when the publishers' advanced note, advertising the fact that Mrs. Martin's work took as the norm of critical judgment certain elements of Greek social and political life, the heart of this reviewer leaped up and rejoiced as did the "little hills" of the Psalmist. Re-reading and reflection reveal awe rather than gladness.

By means of a calculus that must forever remain a mystery to the slave of the historical method, Mrs. Martin subtracts the well-known defects of the Greeks from their illustrious attainments and arrives at a sum total of merit. "The credit side of Greek culture which is here described is a net result—after the debit side has been deducted." With this net result as a criterion our progress is measured by "genius," by "more things and more facts," by "morals," and by "mysticism." In every aspect of life we moderns are weighed and found wanting. It is a wonder that such unfit creatures as modern men have managed to survive—still, Darwin, not being a Greek, may have been mistaken in his formula of progress. A great many of Mrs. Martin's animadversions against the evils of modern life are true and cannot be presented to the popular mind too often or too vigorously, but the sweeping assertions of the author are rendered ineffective by the fact that she seems totally ignorant of modern studies in logic, psychology, and biology—especially Mendel's Law—and of the conclusions of modern mathematicians, physicists, and astronomers. An instance may be cited of the painless methods employed in dismissing a subject: "The science of logic was begun and completed by Aristotle at one stroke. No one understood its laws before him and no one has known any more since."

But though the author's armor is perforated for attack, we shall exhibit a Greek restraint in refraining from mentioning any defects or flaws other than those of form. As a printed work it is a model of what the plastic mind of youth should avoid imitating. It has annoying footnotes—on some pages longer than the text; it marshals authority without introduction; prefacing to unassimilated quotation such phrases reminiscent of the Book of Common Prayer as "Cuvier says," "Kant wrote," "Cicero said." Goethe, Hegel, and Romanes are deserving only of a colon. There is no discriminating between authorities thus assembled, and there are too few references to the source of the quotations. "Withington," "Copleston," and "Professor Middleton" find their places among the little great men of our day and the heroes of antiquity, but our ardor for research was dampened when on looking up the last-named authority in *Minerva* we found that, like that other beautiful lyrical child, he is seven!

Is Mankind Advancing? as we hinted before, is not a book. It is a hailstorm of facts, a cyclone center of quotations, a draughty alley for every wind of doctrine. In passing through the reviewer caught a mental influenza—fortunately not fatal.

A RATIONAL BANKING SYSTEM. By H. M. P. ECKARDT. New York and London: Harper & Brothers.

Mr. Eckardt's *A Rational Banking System* is a brief for the system of Branch Banks and a criticism of the extravagance and insecurity of the *laissez-faire* methods of American banking. The book is the fruit of twenty-four years of experience in various Canadian Branch Banks and in the head office and of fifteen years of close study of American banking conditions. It combines in an unusual degree a wide range of information concerning banking conditions in many countries and a first-hand knowledge of the practical details of bank administration. After a preliminary criticism of some of the most apparent weaknesses in the American Single Bank System, such as defalcations and fraud, excessive cost, and liability to panics, Mr. Eckardt introduces his argument for the Canadian Branch Bank System by outlining the organization and working of several hypothetical Branch Banks: one in Massachusetts, a typical industrial and agricultural State, and one in Minnesota, a typical wheat-producing State. Of the three remedies proposed for solving the present problem of inelastic currency, the issue of asset currency, the establishment of a central bank, or the organization of branch banks, the author is naturally in favor of the third. But the discussion of the first two remedies is admirably clear and sug-